

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:  
Zhang, et al.

Serial No.: 10/665,578

Filed: September 19, 2003

For: Instrument and Method for Surgical  
Extraction



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Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Unknown

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, and in accordance with the practice under 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed modified Form PTO-1449. No inference should be made that the cited references are in fact material, are in fact prior art, or that no better art exists. The cited patents are listed in numerical order and are not in any order based on their pertinence.

The above-identified application was filed after June 30, 2003. Therefore, pursuant to the waiver of the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) as stated in a Pre-OG Notice dated July 11, 2003, copies of only the foreign patent documents and non-patent literature listed on the enclosed modified Form PTO-1449 are attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the United States filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required (37 CFR §1.97(b)).

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed information are also enclosed. The undersigned first became aware of the cited patents by their inclusion in an International Search Report issued by the EP on PCT/US03/29144, the PCT counterpart of the present application. A copy of the search report is enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-1394.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Respectfully submitted,



David M. O'Dell

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Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 8-9-04

Bonnie Boyle

Printed Name

Bonnie Boyle

Signature

In place of PTO-1449 Form	U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">             AUG 12 2004              RECEIVED              TRADEMARK DIVISION           </div>	Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	
		Filing Date	
		Applicant(s)	
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
		Attorney Docket Number	
SHEET	1	OF	1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date <small>MM-DD-YYYY</small>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	A1	5951564	09/14/1999	Schroder, et al.
	A2	6159215	12/12/2000	Urbahns, et al.
	A3	6245111	06/12/2001	Shaffner

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document <small>(Country Code - Number - Kind)</small>	Publication Date <small>MM-DD-YYYY</small>	Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <small>Y/N</small>
		DE 76 01 139 U	05/26/1976	Aesculap-Werke	N
		DE 199 64 009	07/12/2001	Universitat Heidelberg	N

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city/country where published

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.